Statement

State-wise Details of Doordarshan Kendra/Studio Projects Presently under Implementation/Envisaged to be set up in the Country

State	Under Implementation	Envisaged to be set up
Andhra Pradesh	Vijaywada Warangal	Vizag
Bihar	Ranchi (AUG.)	-
Gujarat	Rajkot (AUG.)	Junagarh
Haryana	-	Hissar
Kerala	Trichur	Calicut
Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior Jagdalpur Indore	-
Maharashtra	Bombay (EXP.) Nagpur (AUG.) Pune	-
Orissa	Bhawanipatna Sambalpur (PMT.)	-
Punjab	Patiala	-
Rajasthan	Udaipur	-
Sikkim	Gangtok	-
Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore	Madurai Salem
Uttar Pradesh	Mau Allahabad Mathura Varanasi	-
West Bengal	Jalpaiguri Shantiniketan (PMT.)	-
Chandigarh	Chandigarh	-
Delhi	Delhi (AUG.) Parliament (PMT.)	-

Note : No such projects are presently under implementation/ envisaged to be set up in other States/Union Territories.

Legend : AUG. - Augmentation
EXP. - Expansion
PMT. - Permanent Set-up

Waiting List for Telephones

*369. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the waiting list for telephone connections is constinuously increasing in the metropolitan cities of the country for the last few years;

(b) if not, the number of applicants on the waiting lists in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta, Jaipur, Lucknow and Patna during 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96;

(c) whether the Government have fixed any final time limit to sanction telephone connections to the registrants of 1996; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir. Waiting list for telephone connections as on 31st March, 1996 was less than that on 31st March, 94 in all the four metro cities (Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Calcutta).

(b) The number of applicants in the waiting list in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta, Jaipur, Lucknow and Patna during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) It is proposed to provide 29 lakh telephone connections in the country during 1997-98 as against a target of providing 24.5 lakh telephone connections during 1996-97 with this provision it is expected that the waiting list upto 31st March, 1997 in most of the exchange areas in as many as eight telecom Circles, including metro cities, will be cleared during 1997-98. In the remaining areas the waiting list will be cleared progressively during 1997-98 and thereafter.

Statement

S. No.	City	Waiting List		
		1993-94 As on 31.3.94	1994-95 As on 31.3.95	1995-96 As on 31.3.96
1.	Delhi	250901	130243	9221
2.	Mumbai	93296	50039	10572
3.	Calcutta	48627	52393	47361
4.	Jaipur	62043	62598	46790
5.	Lucknow	5853	7827	11334
6.	Patna	5136	2285	6067

[English]

Aircraft Maintenance Services

*370. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned, "AI to market aircraft maintenance services" appearing in the 'Business Standard' dated February 24, 1997;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and facts relating to the proposal under consideration;

(c) the present status of the proposal; and

(d) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared for implementation and implication thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A multi-disciplinary marketing cell has been set up to explore the possibilities of taking up third party jobs of maintenance and overhaul of air-frames, engines, etc. of domestic as well as international airlines.

Import of Fuel

*371. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India and Indian Airlines have been importing fuel;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the countries from where the fuel is being imported by the above airlines;

(d) whether the cost of imported fuel is less in comparison to its cost in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof and estimated savings of AI and IA in importing the fuel;

(f) the steps taken to reduce fuel prices in the country;

(g) whether the directives of the Government regarding Station-wise fuel quota, prices and actual lifting are being complied with by Air India; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (f) In 1995, Indian Airlines imported 32,600 kilolitres of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) through Indian Oil Corporation under Special Import Licence (SIL). The Company saved Rs. 17 crores due to price differential between the imported and domestic fuel. Subsequently due to imposition of surcharge and levying of customs duty on such imports, Indian Airlines discontinued the import of ATF. Air India does not import ATF but uplifts it from online stations wherever necessary.

The fuel prices in India are about 51% higher than the average fuel prices in the international market.

(g) and (h) No such directives have been issued by the Government.

Revision of Royalty Rates of Mineral

*372. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a statutory body to revise the Royalty rates of minerals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a decision was taken to revise the royalty rate of minerals in every three years;

(d) if so, the reasons for not revising the royalty rate of Lignite since 1990;

(e) whether the Government of Gujarat has represented to streamline the existing system of fixing the royalty rates of minerals departmentaly; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (f) As per the provisions of Section 9 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 the Central Government may by notification in official Gazette, amend the Second Schedule to the Act, so as to enhance or reduce the rates at which royalty shall be payable in respect of major minerals with effect from such date as may be specified in the notification, but no enhancement in the rates of royalty in respect of such minerals can be made more than once during any period of three years.

The Central Government constituted a Study Group on 30.1.95 for carrying out detailed review of rates of royalty and dead rent applicable to major minerals (other than coal lignite and sand for stowing). The Study Group had members from some of the important mineral producing States including Gujarat. The Study Group also had consultation with the State Governments and the mining industry and considered the question of revision of rates of Royalty on major minerals and dead rent in all its aspects within the scope of its term of reference before submitting its report to the Government. The Study Group submitted its report in November, 1995. The report of the Study Group has been examined and the revision of rates is under consideration of the Government.

As regards lignite, action for review of royalty on lignite has been initiated by the Ministry of Coal.

[Translation]

Permission to Foreign Companies to Advertise their Products

*373. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have agreed to permit foreign companies to advertise their products on all channels of Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and terms and conditions therefor;

(c) the estimated foreign exchange likely to be earned each year as a result thereof; and